

**MINUTES OF THE HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION**

**Meeting of September 13, 2017**

**MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION**

---

**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday, September 13, 2017

**Start Time:** 12:06 PM

**End Time:** 2:40 PM

---

	<b>Present?</b>	<b>ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes</b>	<b>ITEM 2: Executive Session</b>
Carole Allen	X	X	X
Stuart Altman*	X	X	X
Don Berwick	X	X	X
Martin Cohen	X	X	X
David Cutler	X	X	X
Wendy Everett	X	X	X
Timothy Foley	X	X	X
Rick Lord	A	A	A
Ron Mastrogiovanni	X	X	X
Sec. Marylou Sudders	X	X	X
Sec. Kristen Lepore	X	X	X
<b>Summary</b>	<b>10 Members Attended</b>	<b>Approved with 10 votes in the affirmative</b>	<b>Approved with 10 votes in the affirmative</b>

Presented below is a summary of the meeting, including time-keeping, attendance, and votes.

\*Chairman

(M): Made motion; (2nd): Seconded motion; (ab): Abstained from Vote; (A): Absent from Meeting

## Proceedings

A regular meeting of the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017.

Commissioners present included Dr. Stuart Altman (Chair); Dr. Wendy Everett (Vice Chair); Dr. Carole Allen; Dr. Don Berwick, Mr. Martin Cohen; Dr. David Cutler; Mr. Ron Mastrogiovanni; Mr. Timothy Foley; Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; and Ms. Lauren Peters, designee for Secretary Kristen Lepore, Executive Office of Administration and Finance.

Dr. Altman called the meeting to order at 12:06 PM and welcomed those present.

### ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes from July 26, 2017

Dr. Altman solicited comments on the minutes from July 26, 2017. Seeing none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. **Dr. Allen** made a motion to approve the minutes. **Dr. Everett** seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Seltz welcomed the public to the Board meeting. He stated that this was the last meeting for Undersecretary Alice Moore. He noted that Undersecretary Moore has been an incredible partner to HPC as the designee for Secretary Sudders. Mr. Seltz thanked Undersecretary Moore for her input and insights and wished her the best of luck in her new role at Commonwealth Medicine.

### ITEM 2: Executive Session

Dr. Altman introduced the HPC's statutory responsibility to require Performance Improvement Plans (PIPs). He noted that managing the PIPs process is among the most important roles for the HPC. He stated that HPC staff have been reviewing confidential data provided by the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) to determine which organizations will be subjected to a PIP.

Dr. Altman noted that it is important for Board members to discuss this confidential information prior to voting to initiate a PIP. As it is confidential, the Board can enter an Executive Session to discuss the data. He asked Ms. Lois Johnson, General Counsel, to provide further detail.

Ms. Johnson reviewed the Executive Session process.

Dr. Altman asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the confidential data related to PIPs. **Dr. Berwick** made a motion. **Secretary Sudders** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Dr. Altman emphasized the importance of the Executive Session function to allow for a thorough discussion of proposed PIPs.

The Board entered into executive session at 12:17 PM.

Board resumed the public meeting at 12:50 PM.

Dr. Altman stated that, during the Executive Session, Board members asked a number of questions related to the confidential data provided by CHIA. He noted that, at this point, the HPC had focused the discussion on a small number of the payers and providers identified by CHIA. He added that, in the coming weeks, organizations will receive letters either indicating that they will not be required to complete a PIP or asking for additional information for the HPC's review.

Dr. Altman stated that most of the payers and providers in the Commonwealth will not be required to complete a PIP. He stated that the staff will return at a future Board meeting and ask for a vote to approve PIPs for specific organizations.

### **ITEM 3: Discuss of Performance Improvement Plans**

Ms. Kate Mills, Policy Director for Market Performance, provided a brief overview of the PIPs process and timeline. For more information, see slides 9-13.

### ***ITEM 4: Presentation on CHIA's Annual Report on the Performance of the Massachusetts Health Care System.***

Dr. Altman stated that CHIA annually provides a detailed analysis of health care cost growth in the Commonwealth and that, at the day's meeting, staff from CHIA would present on their latest report on cost trends in Massachusetts. Dr. Altman introduced Mr. Ray Campbell, Executive Director for CHIA, for this presentation.

Mr. Campbell presented on CHIA's Annual Report on the Performance of the Massachusetts Health Care System. To review the report, click [here](#). For the slides from the presentation, click [here](#).

Board members engaged in discussion on this report. For audio, click [here](#).

Dr. Altman emphasized the importance of this data. He noted that Massachusetts is doing better in many respects, with one of the lowest growth rates in health care spending across the country. He stated that the Commonwealth must continue to act to further reduce the cost of health care. He noted that the state will continue to monitor health care changes at the national level to determine the impact on the Commonwealth. He thanked the payer and provider community in Massachusetts for their work in this area.

The Board thanked Mr. Campbell for his presentation.

Mr. Seltz noted that CHIA will be presenting additional findings at the 2017 Cost Trends Hearing. He stated that the Hearing will also include a presentation on national trends in health care costs and comparisons to Massachusetts.

### **ITEM 5: Presentation from a HCII Awardee: Hebrew Senior Life**

Mr. Seltz introduced the leadership from Hebrew Senior Life to present on their project through the HPC's Health Care Innovation Investment (HCII) Program. Mr. Seltz noted that the HPC has been thrilled with the work on this project. He stated that Hebrew Senior Life was recently recognized for their innovative model, winning the Grand Prize for the Pioneer Institute's Better Government Competition.

Representatives from Hebrew Senior Life presented on their model. To review slides from this presentation, click [here](#).

Board members engaged in discussion on this report. For audio, click [here](#).

Dr. Altman thanked Hebrew Senior Life for their presentation and noted the importance of their work.

## **ITEM 6: Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Seltz provided an update on notices of material change received since the last Board meeting. For more information, see slides 18-20.

Mr. Foley asked for clarification on the timeline to close the three pending notices of material change. Mr. Seltz responded that the HPC has not yet received full documentation from the parties to the transaction. He stated that, once the information is received, the HPC will complete the review within 30 days.

Mr. Seltz provided an overview of the agenda for the 2017 Cost Trends Hearing, scheduled for October 2 and 3, 2017. For more information, see slides 22-25.

Mr. Seltz stated that the HPC is currently compiling the 2017 Pre-Filed Testimony from the Cost Trends Hearing. He noted that this information is available on the HPC's website.

Mr. Seltz provided an update on the HPC's care delivery certification programs. For more information, see slides 27-33.

Mr. Seltz stated that over 100 practices are now participating in the PCMH PRIME Certification Program. He further stated that the HPC is currently accepting applications for its ACO Certification Program and the program expects to make decisions on pending applications by January 1, 2018.

Mr. Seltz provided an update on the HPC's investment programs. For more information, see slides 35-41.

Mr. Seltz stated that the HPC is in the process of completing Phase Two of the CHART Investment Program. He stated that approximately 60% of CHART awards have been disbursed to date. He reviewed proposed no-cost extensions for two hospitals as well as achievement payments. He stated that the HPC is working on an evaluation for CHART Phase 2, with an interim report to be released in Fall 2017.

Mr. Seltz asked for any questions

Mr. Cohen asked for clarification on the level of detail in the ACO Certification applications. He asked whether staff could share sample applications with the Board for review. He also asked whether the HPC had created feedback to get information on the certification from MassHealth, patients, advocacy groups, and other key stakeholders. Mr. Seltz responded that the HPC invited certain ACOs to go through first user testing and submit their responses and feedback on the process. He stated that staff can share certain information from the applications with the Board in public, but that the full applications were confidential.

Mr. Seltz stated that, after certification, the HPC will be able to identify trends across the cohort in various areas. He noted that this data will provide a strong foundation on the capabilities and needs of the provider market in Massachusetts. He stated that the HPC will use this information to improve upon future iterations of the program.

Mr. Seltz stated that the HPC is working daily with MassHealth to evolve the program.

Dr. Berwick asked when the Board will receive the report on achievement against goals for the CHART Investment Program. Mr. Seltz responded that the HPC expected the final report on evaluation from Boston University School of Public Health in January 2019. He noted that interim reports would be released over the next few months. Based on the monthly reports from the hospitals, Mr. Seltz said that there have been great results thus far.

Dr. Everett asked whether the final evaluation report would include information from the no cost extensions. Mr. Seltz responded that the report is on the 24-month period of performance. As such, the final report will not include the additional work completed as part of the no cost extension.

Mr. Foley asked whether the lessons from CHART can feed into this year's cost containment work. Mr. Seltz responded that that is absolutely the plan. He stated that the HPC is working on a learning and dissemination strategy for the work from the investment and certification programs. The HPC hopes to use this as an opportunity to share effective models across the state.

## **ITEM 7: Adjournment and Schedule of Next Meeting**

Dr. Altman adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM and announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2017.